IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TSUYOSHI SHIBATA, ET AL.

Appln. No.: 10/623,541

Filed: July 22, 2003

For: INKJET PRINTING METHOD AND INKJET PRINTING APPARATUS

Examiner: J. Huffman

Group Art Unit: 2853

Coroup Art Unit: 2853

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Introductory Comments

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.